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Letter dated 13 April 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Permanent Representatives of the Member States of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC), and in the capacity of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as Chair of the GCC for 2012, I have the honour to transmit to you the enclosed letter addressed to you from the Permanent Representatives of the GCC Member States on their collective official position regarding the recent visit of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the island of Abu Musa (see annex).

I have the further honour to request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Omar A. **Al-Oyaidi**
Deputy Permanent Representative

* Reissued for technical reasons on 20 April 2012.

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Annex to the letter dated 13 April 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We would like to inform you that, on Wednesday, 11 April 2012, the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, visited the island Abu Musa, which belongs to the United Arab Emirates and has been occupied by Iran since 1971. This is the first visit made by an Iranian President to this occupied island.

The States of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council, which reaffirm the full sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over the island of Abu Musa and also over the islands of Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunb, which have been occupied by military force by Iran since 1971, strongly condemn this visit by the Iranian President. The States of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council regard this visit as a flagrant violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of the provisions of international law, and constitutes a flagrant violation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates. The visit also demonstrates Iran's disregard of all the peace initiatives, efforts and other endeavours made so far by the United Arab Emirates or by the States of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council with the aim of finding a just and lasting settlement to end the Iranian occupation of the three islands through peaceful means.

We in the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council reiterate our support for the initiative put forward by the United Arab Emirates, which calls for the settlement of the issue of the three United Arab Emirates islands by peaceful means, through direct negotiations between the two countries, or resort to the International Court of Justice, so that a just, comprehensive and lasting settlement of this issue may be achieved. We also emphasize the need for the Islamic Republic of Iran to refrain from committing such provocative and unilateral acts, and to demonstrate its good and sincere intentions towards the efforts made to achieve a just settlement of this issue, in a way that ensures regional and international peace, security and stability, and promotes good-neighbourly relations and mutual cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the States of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council as well as with the region as a whole.

We request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jamal Fares **Alrowaiei**
Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Mansour Ayyad SH A **Alotaibi**
Permanent Representative of the State of Kuwait to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Lyutha S. **Al-Mughairy**
Permanent Representative of the Sultanate of Oman to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Yousef Sultan **Laram**
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Omar A. **Al-Oyaidi**
Deputy Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations
on behalf of the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the
United Nations

(*Signed*) Ahmed **Al-Jarman**
Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations